GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:300
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
TRAVEL ADVISORIES
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether negative travel advisories are being issued by various countries from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact of these advisories on the flow of foreign tourists to India;

(d) whether the Government has taken up this issue with the concerned countries and raised it at international fora; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.300 ANSWERED ON 18.12.2008 REGARDING TRAVEL ADVISORIES

(a) & (b): Travel Advisories have been issued by various countries, from time to time, advising their citizens to avoid travel or to take precautions while traveling to areas in the country which are temporarily disturbed.

(c): Foreign tourist arrivals to the country have continued to increase as detailed below:

Year	Foreign Tourist Arrivals	% increase over previous year
2005	3.92 million	13.3
2006	4.45 million	13.5
2007	5.08 million	14.3
2008 (Jan - Nov)	4.84 million	8.0 (as compared to Jan-Nov 2007)

(d) & (e): The issue has been taken up by the Ministry while addressing international fora such as the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Executive Council Meeting in Jeju, South Korea and the Pacific Asia Travel Mart (PATA) Travel Mart 2008 in Hyderabad. The issue has also been taken up through the Indian Missions Overseas. Some countries have consequently reviewed and either removed or down graded the advisories issued by them.